

MAY 23 2007

Docket No. F-8503

Ser. No. 10/521,218

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the indicated paragraphs of the specification in accordance with the amendments indicated below.

Page 3: 2nd full paragraph, amend as indicated below:

In the ~~above-described~~ above described process, it is also necessary to feed plural optical fiber cores, which are before their formation into a tape and are single cores in a loose state, through the aligner 17 while aligning them with each other and then to insert them into the very small holes (18a and 18c) of the coating jig 18. This setting of the optical fiber cores is troublesome and time-consuming, leading to a reduction in work efficiency. With respect to a demand for the fabrication of a short-distance optical fiber tape core or the formation of an optical fiber tape core into a tape only at a necessary position, the fabrication facilities are difficult to meet such a demand because the distance from the core feeder 16 to the curing unit 19 is long and fabrication conditions such as the coat thickness do not become constant shortly after an initiation of fabrication.